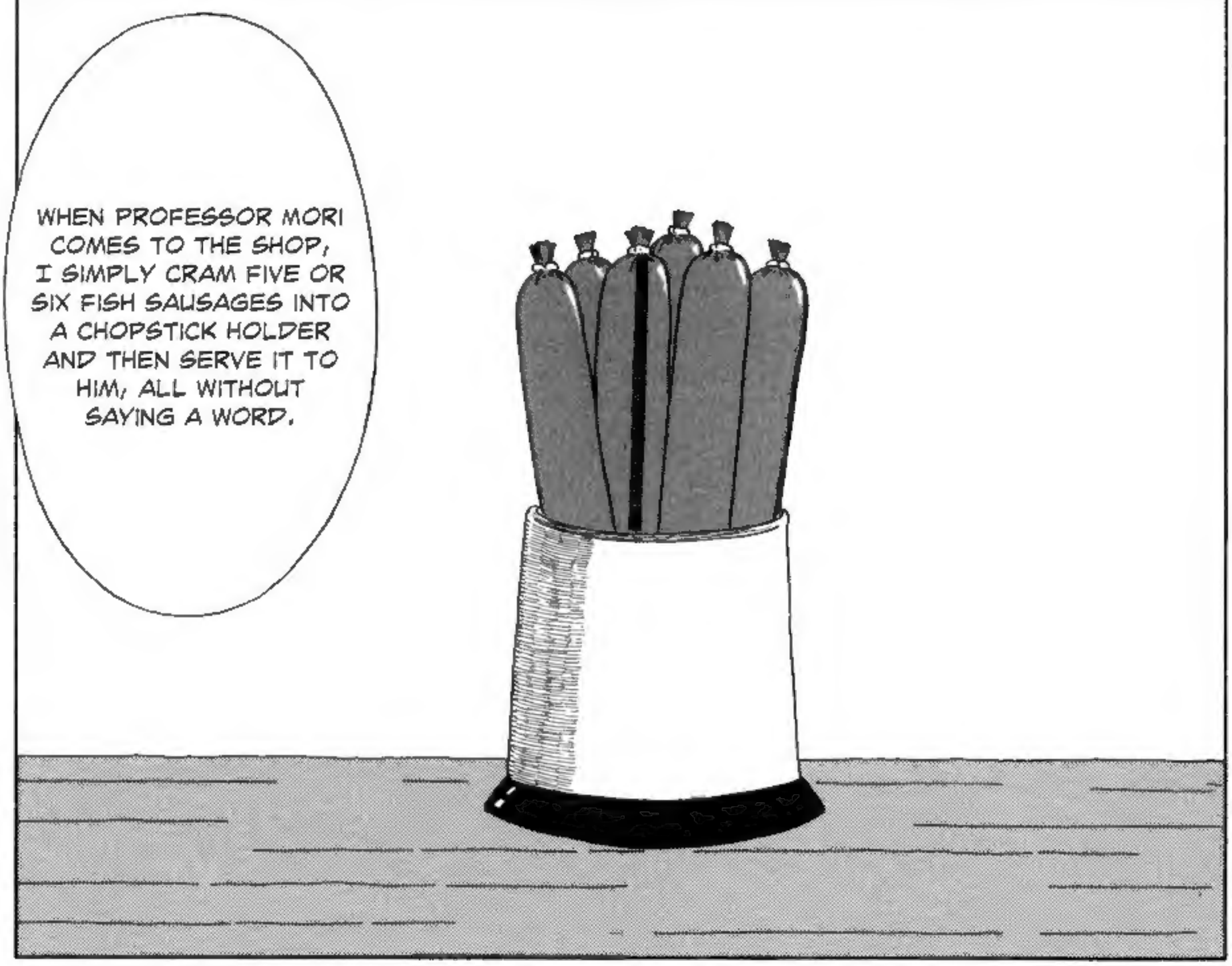
Translator: Psi | Editor: Iruyily | Proofreader: Zeroaintdead | Redrawer: Everath

37th Night ◎ Fish Sausages


WHEN PROFESSOR MORI COMES TO THE SHOP, I SIMPLY CRAM FIVE OR SIX FISH SAUSAGES INTO A CHOPSTICK HOLDER AND THEN SERVE IT TO HIM, ALL WITHOUT SAYING A WORD.

IT DATES BACK FROM WHEN I FIRST MET HIM IN MIDDLE SCHOOL!

I CAN TELL FROM THE WAY YOU EAT THAT YOU'RE NO STRANGER TO FISH SAUSAGES, MORI-SENSEI.

ALTHOUGH HE'D HAVE BEEN DRINKING SODA INSTEAD OF BEER, BACK THEN...

HE ALWAYS HAD FISH SAUSAGES STUFFED INTO HIS BREAST POCKET IN-STEAD OF A FOUNTAIN PEN.

EH? AGAIN!?

YOU KNOW? I THINK I'M IN LOVE...

"AGAIN?" HOW RUDE... IT WAS LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT, I TELL YOU.

JUST BETWEEN YOU AND ME, MORI-SENSEI'S BEEN MARRIED FOUR TIMES AND DIVORCED EACH TIME. HE'S THE KIND WHO NEVER LEARNS.

YEAH... WELL, TO BE HONEST, I'M NOT REALLY SURE. NEXT TO THE UNIVERSITY, THERE'S THIS CAFE THAT I ALWAYS GO TO, AND I ALWAYS SEE HER QUICKLY WALKING BY IN THE AFTERNOON...

SO, IS THIS ONE PRETTY?

HMPH, A MASKED BEAUTY, IS IT? THERE'S A SURPRISING AMOUNT OF THOSE ABOUT. BUT WHEN THE MASK COMES OFF, THEY'RE BUTT-UGLY.

HER EYES ARE NICE. ...BUT I WONDER IF SHE HAS HAY FEVER. SHE'S ALWAYS WEARING A HUGE MASK...

SEE YOU.

THANK YOU. AND TAKE CARE.

THE FOOD WAS LOVELY.

OH, NO. IT'S HAY FEVER.

DID YOU CATCH A COLD?

!

HUH!?

SO IT'S YOU?

HAVING BEEN MARRIED FOUR TIMES, IT'S NO SURPRISE THAT HE WAS CLEARLY QUITE THE PRACTICED HAND.

RIGHT THERE AND THEN, MORI-SENSEI ARBITRARILY INTRODUCED HIMSELF TO HER AND ASKED HER OUT.

RUMI-CHAN, THE WOMAN, WAS A FREELANCE WRITER. AND ALTHOUGH THERE WAS AN AGE DIFFERENCE OF 20 YEARS BETWEEN HER AND MORI-SENSEI, IT ALL SEEMED TO BE GOING WELL.

AND WITH THAT, THE TWO OF THEM STARTED SEEING EACH ANOTHER.

THAT'S BECAUSE RUMI-CHAN IS RATHER THE MAYONNAISE LOVER.

ONE THING THAT WAS NEW, THOUGH, WAS THAT HE NOW ADDED MAYONNAISE TO HIS FISH SAUSAGES...

HE BROUGHT ALONG A GERMAN EXCHANGE STUDENT.

JUST AROUND THE TIME WHEN MORI-SENSEI WAS WITHIN REACH OF HIS FIFTH MARRIAGE...

THIS IS JAPAN'S RENOWNED FISH SAUSAGE.

HOW DO YOU FIND THE TASTE?

...

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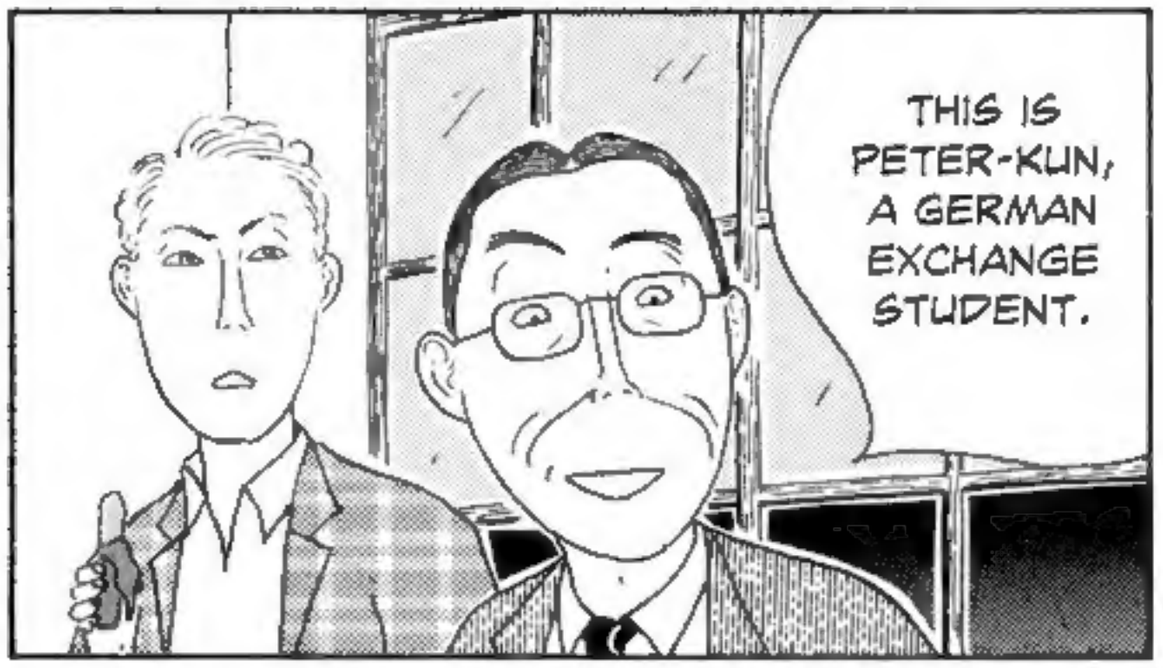
SFX: CLATTER

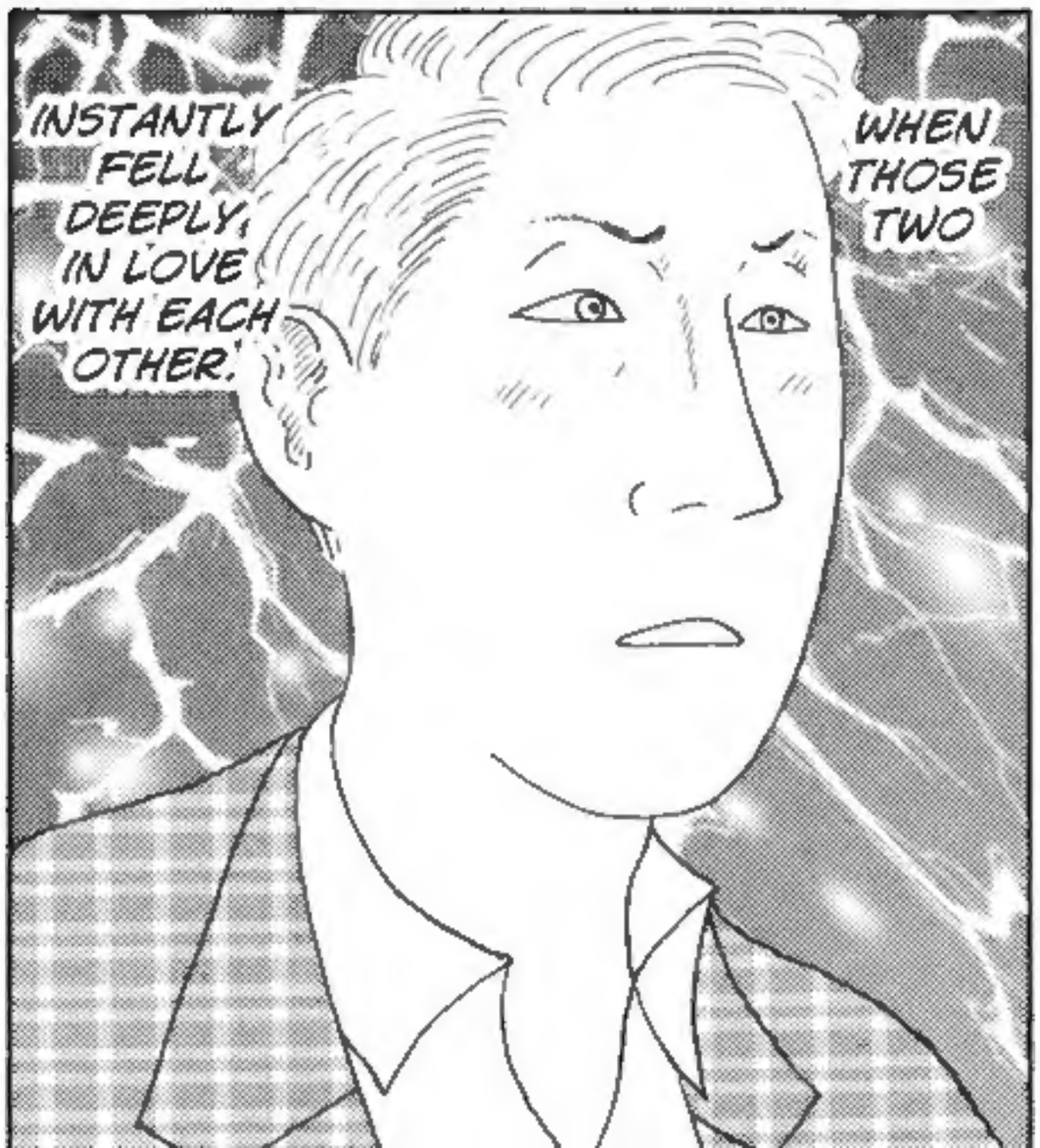
HEY, YOU'RE HERE AT LAST.

I'M SORRY I'M LATE.

PETER-KUN, I WANTED TO INTRODUCE YOU TO HER. THIS IS MY FIANCÉE, RUMI-SAN.

THAT WAS WHEN I THOUGHT, "OH, CRAP!"


THIS IS PETER-KUN, A GERMAN EXCHANGE STUDENT.


INSTANTLY FELL DEEPLY, IN LOVE WITH EACH OTHER.
WHEN THOSE TWO

IT WAS THE MOMENT
THAT'S BECAUSE...

I THINK MORI-SENSEI WAS ALSO AWARE OF THE FACT.

HE TRIED ALL HE COULD TO SMILE, BUT HIS FACE WAS FROZEN INTO A GRIMACE...

LOOKS LIKE MORI CALLED OFF HIS ENGAGEMENT TO HER.

ONE MONTH LATER...

JUST BEFORE THEY BROKE UP, SHE EVEN SAID THIS TO HIM...

YEAH. THEY'RE ALREADY LIVING TOGETHER...

IS SHE NOW WITH THAT GERMAN GUY?

I GUESS IT JUST DOESN'T MATCH UP, AFTER ALL...

NOT WHEN COMPARED TO A GERMAN FRANKFURTER.

SOMETHING LIKE A FISH SAUSAGE ISN'T REALLY A SAUSAGE, YOU KNOW?

郷音 EVEN SO, MORI-SENSEI PICKED HIMSELF UP AGAIN SURPRISINGLY QUICKLY, AND AFTER TWO WEEKS...

THIS IS A FISH SAUSAGE. GO ON, GIVE IT A TRY.

THIS TIME, HE BROUGHT ALONG A YOUNG GERMAN LADY.

AND SO, MORI-SENSEI FINALLY MANAGED TO HOLD HIS FIFTH MARRIAGE CEREMONY, THIS TIME IN GERMANY.

SOMEHOW OR OTHER, IT APPEARED TO BE VERY MUCH TO HER TASTE.

GUT!

EVERYONE IN IT HAD A FISH SAUSAGE IN ONE HAND AND A BEER IN THE OTHER.

AND THE PHOTO OF THE OCCASION WAS ALSO A MARVEL.

WHO KNOWS? MORI-SENSEI MIGHT EVEN BECOME WELL-KNOWN IN TIME. WELL-KNOWN AS THE JAPANESE MAN WHO BROUGHT FISH SAUSAGES TO GERMANY, THAT IS.

THIS IS AWESOME!

RIGHT!?